



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/812,932	03/20/2001	Lars Dalsgaard	413-010125-US(PAR)	9191
7590	03/25/2005		EXAMINER	
Clarence A. Green Perman & Green 425 Post Road Fairfield, CT 06430			RYMAN, DANIEL J	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2665	

DATE MAILED: 03/25/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/812,932	DALSGAARD, LARS	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Daniel J. Ryman	2665	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 24 May 2004.
 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 1,2, and 4-28 is/are pending in the application.
 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
 6) Claim(s) 1,2,4,7 and 16-24 is/are rejected.
 7) Claim(s) 5,6, and 8-15 is/are objected to.
 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
 10) The drawing(s) filed on 20 March 2001 is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date 4.

4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
 6) Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Drawings

1. The drawings are objected to as failing to comply with 37 CFR 1.84(p)(5) because they include the following reference character(s) not mentioned in the description: ref. 531, 532, 550, and 553 (see page 11, line 19-page 12, line 27 and Fig. 5). Corrected drawing sheets in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d), or amendment to the specification to add the reference character(s) in the description in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(b) are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. Any amended replacement drawing sheet should include all of the figures appearing on the immediate prior version of the sheet, even if only one figure is being amended. The replacement sheet(s) should be labeled "Replacement Sheet" in the page header (as per 37 CFR 1.84(c)) so as not to obstruct any portion of the drawing figures. If the changes are not accepted by the examiner, the applicant will be notified and informed of any required corrective action in the next Office action. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

Specification

2. Examiner requests that Applicant amend the specification to include section headings, such as "Background" and "Summary of Invention", in order to make the specification easier to navigate.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

3. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

4. Claims 16-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. Claim 16 includes the limitation “which information is arranged so as to convey to the base station the data of those neighbour cells known to the terminal the timing information of which is known to the terminal”. This limitation is confusing since Examiner cannot determine if the limitation is meant to read “which information is arranged so as to convey to the base station the timing information of those neighbour cells known to the terminal” or “which information is arranged so as to convey to the base station the data of those neighbour cells known to the terminal, wherein a cell known to the terminal is a cell for which the timing information is known to the terminal”. Since Examiner is unsure of the metes and bounds of the claim, Examiner will not examine these claims for the purpose of prior art rejections. Rather Examiner will rely on the rejection of the other claims to convey to Applicant the status of the prior art.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

5. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(a) the invention was known or used by others in this country, or patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country, before the invention thereof by the applicant for a patent.

6. Claims 1, 2, 4, 7, 19-24, 26, and 27 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(a) as being anticipated by Applicant's Admitted Prior Art.

7. Regarding claim 1, Applicant admits as prior art a method for controlling a cell change in a service network, in which method a terminal performs neighbour cell measurements for a cell change (ref. 30) (pg. 3, lines 4-11), the network makes a cell change decision based on said

measurement results, network load and the terminal's service need (ref. 31,32) (Fig. 3 and pg. 3, lines 5-20), and the network sends to the terminal a cell change order instructing the terminal to switch over to a new cell (ref. 33) (Fig. 3 and pg. 3, lines 5-20), characterized in that if the new serving cell assigned to the terminal in the cell change order is a cell the timing information of which is unknown to the terminal after neighbour cell measurements, the cell change will not take place but the terminal will send to the base station a cell change failure message (ref. 35) (Fig. 3 and pg. 3, lines 20-34).

8. Regarding claim 2, Applicant admits as prior art that that the service network is a GPRS network (pg. 3, lines 4-5).

9. Regarding claim 4, Applicant admits as prior art that to the cell change order PACKET_CELL_CHANGE_ORDER (43) an information element has been added which gives the terminal a right not to perform the cell change if the terminal does not know the timing information of the new cell assigned to it (pg. 3, lines 20-34). Examiner notes that Applicant admits as prior art that the terminal does not perform the cell change if it does not know the timing information.

10. Regarding claim 7, Applicant admits as prior art that the message sent by the terminal to the base station, indicating the non-execution of the cell change, is a "Packet_cell_change_failure" message (pg. 3, lines 24-28).

11. Regarding claim 19, Applicant admits as prior art a terminal in a cellular radio system, equipped with means for connecting to a certain service (GSM, GPRS) (pg. 3, lines 4-5) and comprising means for receiving signalling messages from base stations and means for performing cell specific measurements in order to find a suitable serving cell (Fig. 3 and pg. 3,

lines 4-11), characterized in that it is further equipped with means for determining the timing information of neighbour cells and means for sending a cell change failure message to the base station of the current cell in the case that the timing information of the base station of the new cell assigned to the terminal in a cell change order by the serving base station is unknown to the terminal (Fig. 3 and pg. 3, lines 5-34).

12. Regarding claim 20, Applicant admits as prior art that said certain service is the GPRS data packet transmission service (pg. 3, lines 4-5).

13. Regarding claim 21, Applicant admits as prior art that said signalling messages are signalling messages of the GPRS data packet transmission service (pg. 3, lines 4-5).

14. Regarding claim 22, Applicant admits as prior art a cellular radio system comprising base stations and associated cells and terminals, in which system: the base stations are equipped with means for conveying signalling messages between a base station and a terminal (Fig. 3 and pg. 3, lines 5-34), and the terminals are adapted so as to operate at a certain service level (GSM, GPRS) (pg. 3, lines 4-5) and to convey signalling messages between a terminal and a base station (Fig. 3 and pg. 3, lines 5-34), characterized in that it further comprises information, which is known to a terminal, about a set of neighbour cells of said terminal, the timing information of the base stations of which neighbour cells the terminal has determined, whereby said system is adapted so as to convey, after a cell change order addressed to the terminal, a cell change failure message from the terminal to the base station if the timing information of a base station of a new cell assigned to the terminal in the cell change order by the serving base station is unknown to the terminal (Fig. 3 and pg. 3, lines 5-34).

15. Regarding claim 23, Applicant admits as prior art that said certain service is the GPRS data packet transmission service (pg. 3, lines 4-5).

16. Regarding claim 24, Applicant admits as prior art that said signaling messages are signaling messages of the GPRS data packet transmission service (pg. 3, lines 4-5).

17. Regarding claims 26 and 27, Applicant inherently admits as prior art that a cell change failure message includes neighbour cell information (Fig. 3 and pg. 3, lines 4-34). As broadly defined, “neighbour cell information” includes any type of information about the neighbour cells. Since the cell change failure message indicates that the neighbour cell cannot sustain a handover with the mobile unit, the cell change failure message includes “information” about the neighbour cell.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

18. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

19. Claim 25 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Applicant’s admitted prior art as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of Anderson et al. (USPN 6,094,575).

20. Regarding claim 25, Applicant does not admit as prior art that a cell change failure message includes a cause of the cell change failure. Anderson teaches, in a wireless communication system, including a cause of the cell change failure in a cell change failure message (handover failure message) (col. 19, lines 30-42; col. 29, lines 1-24; col. 48, lines 40-

54; col. 81, lines 19-30; and col. 101, line 46-col. 102, line 12) where it is implicit that this is done in order to allow the system to determine why a handover failed. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to include a cause of the cell change failure in a cell change failure message in order to allow the system to determine why a handover failed.

21. Claim 28 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Applicant's admitted prior art.

22. Regarding claim 28, Applicant does not admit as prior art that the cell change failure message includes for the purpose of selecting a new serving cell a set of neighbour cells determined by the terminal. However, Applicant admits as prior art that the terminal transmits to the base station a set of neighbour cells determined by the terminal in order for the base to determine a new serving cell (Fig. 3 and page 3, lines 4-11). Applicant also admits as prior art that a cell change failure message is transmitted by the terminal when the attempted handover fails (Fig. 3 and page 3, lines 17-29). Thus, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to include in the cell change failure message, for the purpose of selecting a new serving cell, a set of neighbour cells determined by the terminal in order to allow a base to select a new serving cell based on the latest information at the terminal.

Allowable Subject Matter

23. Claims 5, 6, and 8-15 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

24. Regarding claims 5 and 6, the prior art does not disclose or fairly suggest that the information enabling the cancellation of the execution of the cell change order is transmitted in the claimed format.

25. Regarding claims 8-15, the prior art does not disclose or fairly suggest that the information sent by the terminal to the base station is transmitted to the base station in a GPRS service network in a signalling message containing the claimed elements.

Conclusion

26. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Ljung (USPN 6,078,813) see entire document which pertains to a handover method which limits the number of failed attempts.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Daniel J. Ryman whose telephone number is (571)272-3152. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon.-Fri. 7:00-4:30 with every other Friday off.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Huy Vu can be reached on (571)272-3155. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Daniel J. Ryman
Examiner
Art Unit 2665

DR2


HUY D. VU
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2600